

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 AF-06 ARA-10 NEA-09

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /110 W

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O 162206Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8802

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS USUN 0135

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, VS, SZ, UN

SUBJECT: PRG LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA

REF: USUN 133

1. UN SPOKESMAN POWELL, AT REGULAR NOON BRIEFING JANUARY 16, ELABORATED ON NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS REPORTED REFTEL.
2. POWELL TOLD PRESS PRG GENEVA OFFICE IS NOT "OBSERVER MISSION" BUT IS A "LIAISON OFFICE." LIAISON OFFICE WAS SET UP TO FACILITATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, POWELL SAID, TO AREAS UNDER CONTROL OF PRG. HE EXPLAINED THAT TWO HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES INVOLVED ARE UNICEF AND UNHCR. HE DESCRIBED THE TWO AGENCIES PROGRAMS IN AREAS CONTROLLED BY PRG. HE SAID LIAISON OFFICE IS IN GENEVA BECAUSE HUMANITARIAN CONTACTS ARE THERE.
3. ASKED IF ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON OFFICE MEANS PRG CAN ALSO ATTEND MEETINGS AS OBSERVER, POWELL SAID THIS NOT CASE BECAUSE LIAISON OFFICE IS ONLY FOR HUMANITARIAN PUR-

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POSES. HE DIFFERENTIATED BETWEEN LIAISON AND OBSERVER OFFICES.,

SAYING AN OBSERVER MISSION IS POLITICAL MISSION AND LIAISON OFFICE IS NOT. HE STRESSED AGAIN THAT LIAISON OFFICE WAS ONLY ESTABLISHED TO FACILITATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. SWISS GOVT CREATED OFFICE AND ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES THAT GO WITH IT. PRG REPRESENTATIVES COULD ATTEND UN MEETINGS IN GENEVA OTHER THAN HUMANITARIAN ONLY AS MEMBERS OF PUBLIC. HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN SOME DISCUSSION IN FEBRUARY 1973 OF ESTABLISHING AN OBSERVER MISSION IN NEW YORK BUT MATTER WAS DROPPED LARGELY BECAUSE OF "THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY OF GETTING THE NECESSARY SERVICES AND DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES."

4. IN ADDITION TO FOREGOING, POWELL ALSO FURNISHED SOME DETAIL OF UNICEF AND UHCR ACTIVITIES IN PRG-CONTROLLED AREA. HE ALSO NOTED THAT POSSIBILITY OF INVITING PRG TO WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT EARLIER ECOSOC MEETING, BUT SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO FOLLOW UP AND PRG DID NOT ATTEND.
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